

In the Claims:

1           1.     [Previously Presented] An image forming device comprising:  
2           an image engine configured to form hard images;  
3           an environmental sensor configured to monitor at least one environmental  
4           condition proximate to the image forming device and to provide data indicative  
5           of the at least one environmental condition;  
6           an interface configured to communicate the data indicative of the at least  
7           one environmental condition externally of the image forming device;  
8           a memory; and  
9           processing circuitry configured to control storage of the data using the  
10          memory to provide a history of the at least one environmental condition to  
11          which the image forming device has been exposed.

1           2.     [Original] The device of claim 1 wherein the image engine is  
2           configured to use a consumable to form the hard images, and the interface  
3           comprises a memory of the consumable.

1           3.     [Original] The device of claim 1 wherein the interface comprises a  
2           communications interface adapted to communicate with devices external of the  
3           image forming device.

1           4.     [Original] The device of claim 1 further comprising processing  
2           circuitry configured as an embedded web server and configured to communicate  
3           the data with respect to a client device external of the image forming device.

1           5.     Canceled.

1           6.     [Previously Presented] The device of claim 1 wherein the  
2           processing circuitry is configured to control the storage of the data at a  
3           predetermined moment in time.

1           7.     [Previously Presented] The device of claim 1 wherein the  
2 processing circuitry is configured to monitor the data and to control the storage  
3 of the data responsive to the monitoring.

1           8.     [Original] The device of claim 1 further comprising an internal  
2 power source configured to provide power to the sensor in an absence of power  
3 from a source external of the image forming device.

1           9.     [Original] The device of claim 1 wherein the environmental sensor  
2 is configured to monitor the at least one environmental condition comprising a  
3 plurality of environmental conditions proximate to the image forming device and  
4 comprising humidity and temperature.

1           10.    [Original] The device of claim 1 wherein the image engine  
2 comprises a print engine of the image forming device embodied as a printer.

1           11.    [Previously Presented] A method of operating an image forming  
2 device, the method comprising:  
3                providing an image forming device configured to form hard images;  
4                sensing at least one environmental condition of an environment proximate  
5 to the image forming device;  
6                communicating data regarding the at least one environmental condition  
7 externally of the image forming device; and  
8                receiving a request within the image forming device from a source  
9 external of the image forming device, and the communicating comprises  
10 communicating responsive to the receiving.

1           12.    Canceled.

1           13.    Canceled.

1           14.    [Original] The method of claim 11 wherein the sensing comprises  
2 sensing a plurality of environmental conditions comprising temperature and  
3 humidity.

1           15. [Original] The method of claim 11 wherein the providing comprises  
2 providing the image forming device embodied as a printer.

1           16. [Previously Presented] A method of monitoring an environment  
2 proximate to an image forming device configured to form hard images, the  
3 method comprising:

4           providing an image forming device configured to form hard images and to  
5 monitor at least one environmental condition proximate to the image forming  
6 device and to communicate data regarding the at least one environmental  
7 condition externally of the image forming device;

8           receiving the data regarding the at least one environmental condition from  
9 the image forming device; and

10          analyzing the data regarding the at least one environmental condition after  
11 the receiving to determine a quantitative parameter for the at least one  
12 environmental condition for testing other image forming devices.

1           17. Canceled.

1           18. [Original] The method of claim 16 further comprising  
2 communicating a request to the image forming device, and wherein the  
3 communicating the data is responsive to the communicating the request.

1           19. [Original] The method of claim 16 wherein the providing comprises  
2 providing the image forming device configured to use a consumable, and  
3 wherein the receiving the data comprises extracting the data from the  
4 consumable.

1           20. [Original] The method of claim 16 wherein the providing comprises  
2 providing the image forming device configured to monitor the at least one  
3 environmental condition comprising a plurality of environmental conditions  
4 comprising temperature and humidity.

1           21.   [Previously Presented] An image forming device comprising:  
2           an image engine configured to form hard images;  
3           an environmental sensor configured to monitor at least one environmental  
4 condition proximate to the image forming device and to provide data indicative  
5 of the at least one environmental condition;  
6           an interface configured to communicate the data indicative of the at least  
7 one environmental condition externally of the image forming device; and  
8           an internal power source configured to provide power to the sensor in an  
9 absence of power from a source external of the image forming device.

1           22.   Canceled.

1           23.   [Previously Presented] An image forming device comprising:  
2           an image engine configured to form hard images;  
3           an environmental sensor configured to monitor at least one environmental  
4 condition proximate to the image forming device and to provide data indicative  
5 of the at least one environmental condition;  
6           an interface configured to communicate the data indicative of the at least  
7 one environmental condition externally of the image forming device; and  
8           wherein the image engine is configured to use a consumable to form the  
9 hard images, and the interface comprises a memory of the consumable.

1           24.   [Previously Presented] The device of claim 1 wherein the data of  
2 the history comprises a plurality of values for the at least one environmental  
3 condition stored over a period of time.

1           25.   [Previously Presented] The device of claim 1 further comprising an  
2 internal power source configured to provide operational power to permit storage  
3 of the data to provide the history of the at least one environmental condition  
4 during an absence of power from a source external of the image forming device.

1           26. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 11 wherein the  
2 providing comprises providing the image forming device configured to use a  
3 consumable to form hard images, and the communicating comprises storing the  
4 data regarding the at least one environmental condition using the consumable.

1           27. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 16 wherein the  
2 quantitative parameter comprises a temperature range.

1           28. [Previously Presented] An image forming device testing method  
2 comprising:  
3           providing a first image forming device to be tested;  
4           accessing a history comprising data indicative of at least one  
5 environmental condition to which at least one second image forming device has  
6 been exposed;  
7           determining at least one testing criteria responsive to the accessing of the  
8 history; and  
9           testing the first image forming device using the testing criteria after the  
10 determining.

1           29. [New] The device of claim 1 wherein the processing circuitry is  
2 configured to control outputting of the history externally of the image forming  
3 device.

1           30. [New] The device of claim 1 wherein the processing circuitry is  
2 configured to control outputting of the history comprising a plurality of values  
3 indicative of the at least one environmental condition obtained at a plurality of  
4 different moments of time.

1           31. [New] The device of claim 1 wherein the memory is configured to  
2 store the history prior to the image forming device being implemented for the  
3 first time to form hard images.

1        32. [New] The method of claim 11 wherein the communicating  
2 comprises outputting the data regarding the at least one environmental condition  
3 externally of the image forming device.

1        33. [New] The method of claim 16 further comprising outputting the  
2 data regarding the at least one environmental condition externally of the image  
3 forming device.

1        34. [New] The device of claim 21 wherein the interface is configured  
2 to output the data indicative of the at least one environmental condition  
3 externally of the image forming device.

1        35. [New] The device of claim 23 wherein the interface is configured  
2 to output the data indicative of the at least one environmental condition  
3 externally of the image forming device.